Chairman's Corner
By Chris Will

Strike While the Iron Is Hot

The old proverb refers to the act of the blacksmith shaping a heated iron rod with hammer while the metal is still pliable. The proverb implies we should take advantage of the opportunity while it still presents itself. Today, foresters have a golden opportunity. It is the perfect time to share the interesting story of wood and its renewable quality.

In 2015 the Wall Street Journal proclaims, “Bourbon Feels the Burn of Barrel Shortage”. Suddenly the public is not only thinking about their favorite spirit, but also about the wooden vessel in which it is aged. How is it possible that the supply of oak trees will ever meet our demand for whiskey barrels?

The answer is forest management!

Increased demand for forest products create rising stumpage values for forest landowners. Additional profits are available to be reinvested in more intensive forest management practices. Oak forest types rely on a regeneration process that requires management inputs to maintain oak forest types for future generations to come. This specialized knowledge requires the expertise of professional foresters to assess forest conditions, create management plans and implement practice that produce forest products desired by society. “Successful forest management is growing trees bigger, better, faster and cheaper”, to quote my college silviculture professor.

The interest goes beyond bourbon and whiskey barrels too. Wood is receiving renewed interest as a building material. High rise buildings are being constructed entirely of wood. A new engineered product call Cross Laminate Timber or CLT allows builders the opportunity to build wooden structures taller, for less money and are more fire resistant than traditional steel and concrete buildings. These long-lived wood products are not only built from a renewable resource, they are sequestering carbon as well.

As foresters, we are living in exciting times. Along with this opportunity comes a great deal of work. We must learn to balance short-term demand with long-term planning and management. We need to sharpen our skills as communicators to ensure the scientific-based forestry message is heard and we must continuously educate ourselves, developing new ideas and approaches to a variety of forestry challenges. The work won’t be easy, but it will be worthwhile.

Your professional association, the Society of American Foresters provides you the tools and opportunities to take advantage of this renewed interest in wood. The theme for the 2019 SAF National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky is, “Goods from the Woods”, where we will share with our peers and the public the value of Kentucky & Tennessee forests and the many products they provide. The opportunity has presented itself, make the most of it.
MARK your calendar

K-T SAF Summer Meeting

**June 13 - 15**

Gatlinburg, Tennessee

Natural Bridge State Resort Park
Slade, KY

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4th Annual
Music and Mentoring

September 20th, 2018
Nashville, TN

Info Tidbits on pg. 6. More details coming!

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Tennessee Forestry Association Annual Meeting

September 26-18

Carnegie Hotel
Johnson City, Tennessee

Check the TFA website for upcoming details

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5th Southern Forest Products Export Conference

October 21 – 24, 2018

Guesthouse at Graceland
Memphis, Tennessee

More info on Page 3 and at southernforestproducts.org

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K-T SAF Student – Professional Fall Field Day

October 6, 2018

Location and activity to be determined. Stay tuned!
5th Southern Forest Products Export Conference
Submitted by: Tim Phelps

We are expecting the conference will feature a world-class panel of experts speaking on the challenges and opportunities of exporting forest products from inland states. Building off the previous four iterations of this conference that took place in mid-Atlantic states with ocean ports, this next conference will:

- Identify challenges & opportunities related to inland exporting
- Present modes to scale business to meet international demand
- Address key international markets
- Highlight success in exporting
- Raise awareness of the worldwide importance of southern forest products

We are looking to cater to an audience including:

- Primary and Secondary Wood-using Manufacturers
- International Buyers
- Marketing Specialists
- Extension Specialists and Researchers
- Trade Association Representatives
- Service Providers: freight forwarders, trade compliance, financial, etc.

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry, through its Tennessee Wood Products Brand Marketing Program, will take the lead hosting the conference to promote the export of southern forest products to international markets with an emphasis on exporting from inland regions. We do this with strong cooperation from our partners including the department’s Agriculture Advancement Division, the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development, Tennessee Forestry Association, participating state forestry agencies, and trade partners.

Expert panel of speakers will provide up-to-date information on key aspects of exporting within four topical sessions, including:

**Logistics**
Inland states have unique challenges for exporting wood products. Getting products to port efficiently and at low cost are critical for success. We'll examine pathways to ports, the Memphis connection, and services that assist business move products.

**Scalability**
Does your company produce the volume needed to satisfy the demand for international buyers? Just because the answer may be no, does not put you out of the game. We'll learn what opportunities are available for companies of varying sizes.

**Trade Policy**
Getting your product to port is half the battle. Understanding how to navigate the international trade waters is another ordeal. We'll hear global perspectives on current trade climate, plus hear updates and get tips on doing business with major world regions.

**Case Studies**
Selected companies, representing a range of forest products, will share their experiences in exporting.
Events

Milan No Till Field Day 2018
https://tiny.utk.edu/MilanNoTill

Join us at the Natural Resources tour for presentations on sustainable forestry, ticks, invasive pests, log grading, portable sawmill and more.

News


Because trees are renewable, burning wood for energy is now recognized as “carbon neutral” when used for energy production at stationary sources. This could lead to additional wood markets.

2018 Federal Tax Code

Although tax rates have been lowered for most individuals, forest landowners that are classified as investors (as opposed to in the trade or business), will no longer be able to deduct miscellaneous itemized deductions.

Did You Know That Oaks Will Hybridize?
https://tiny.utk.edu/KYWoodlands

When two closely-related species cross-pollinate, the offspring contain genetic characteristics of both parents. The Saul oak is a cross between chestnut oak and white oak, and the Bender oak is a cross between northern red oak and scarlet oak.

Market Highlights

Over the course of the past two months, market price for seven of the eight species of hardwoods more commonly sawn in Tennessee have risen, including: red and white oaks, poplar, ash, cherry, sugar maple and black walnut. Only hickory has remained constant. Nothing is declining. With improved weather, logging activity is increasing, but many mills still have low log inventories following the wet winter and spring. Overall, demand is high and prices for standing timber reflect this. (Ref. Hardwood Market Report, Memphis, TN)

Research

UT Begins Research Project Involving Biochar

Biochar is a charcoal-like product made from wood, whereby wood is heated in a low oxygen environment. Wood removes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and once charred and crushed, can be stored in the soil. UT researchers are studying how the ability of biochar to store water may improve row crop production on drought-prone sandy sites, while concurrently cleansing the atmosphere and providing additional markets for Tennessee forest landowners, loggers and wood industry.

Southern Pine Beetle (SPB) Outbreaks Becoming Less Frequent and Severe.

Stephen Clarke, et. al., reported in Forest Science (April 2016) that recent SPB activity in the Southeast has been more localized and short-lived than the frequent and widespread outbreaks in the past. The primary reasons are: genetic improvement of seedlings, effective SPB prevention programs and swift suppression, appropriate site selection for plantation establishment, smaller stands broken by corridors of non-host hardwoods, and prescribe burning.
NATIONAL SAF – LOUISVILLE 2019  
Submitted by Rance Frye, General Sessions Chair 2019  

Goods From The Woods – our Theme  

Save the Date  

Save the Date  

Save the ever-loving Date…  

Oct 28- Nov 3 2019  

The Conference starts on Thursday but the House of Society Delegates meets on Tuesday and Wednesday so we’ll need folks for the entire week. If you can help on one day or all of them we’ll need the support of the entire KT SAF. I’ll have more info at the Summer Meeting in KY.

Our planning meetings are going well and progress is tangible.

We're a ways yet from committing on Tours but continue to offer up ideas.

We really want additional ideas for the exhibit hall! Let's liven up the exhibit hall. We plan on having Live: log, lumber, and stave grading. Let's look for other activities we can have to engage our visitors who are not as immersed in KT as we! Do you have contacts in Manufacturing? Contact them and forward them to me. We want to showcase Forest Products from our region.

Student – Professional Field Day  
Submitted by Heather Slayton  

On March 3, 2018, four Sewanee students made the trek to Signal Mountain outside of Chattanooga to help the Tennessee Division of Forestry’s Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) Strike Team prepare a site for HWA treatment. Eli Walker, Drew Philpott, Roy Flaig, and Ben Speight not only helped the Strike Team knock out some forestry field work but they also spent valuable time with Dave Walters (TDF), Bob Ploetz (WestRock), Heather Slayton (TDF) and three Signal Mountain hemlock champion residents. Everyone came away from the day jazzed about forestry and having a sense of accomplishment.

From the K-T SAF Editor
Students from the University of Tennessee were also hosted by the Daniel Boone NF on that same date. The field day for both locations, the very first in what is hopeful to be a tradition, was also featured in the May 2018 edition of THE FORESTRY SOURCE. The article can be accessed on page 15 HERE.

Great job Heather and everyone that planned and support the event. Mark your calendars for the Fall Field Day coming up on October 6th.
Great news! **Diana Gennett** is our new SAF South-East Tennessee Chapter Chair and is anxious to get started by holding local chapter meetings and getting involved in local forestry issues such as the Cherokee’s proposed “Dinkey Sale” in the Ocoee District. Diana’s contact information is listed in the back. Be sure to welcome her aboard and lend your support. SAF participation at the local chapter level is very important to our membership. Let’s help her be successful.

**Chris Osbourne** has recently started a new job at Kentucky River Properties as their Forester. His new email address is [chris@krpky.com](mailto:chris@krpky.com). Wish him luck in his new endeavor.

Rumor has it that the **West Kentucky Chapter** had their first meeting since becoming “re-formed” and is planning another one in the fall. Details coming!

Two members of the K-T SAF membership, **Laurie Smith** and **Heather Slayton**, have been nominated and approved as **FELLOWS** into the Society of American Foresters.

Laurie is the Supervisory Forester in the Stearns Ranger District of the Daniel Boone National Forest.

Heather is the Forest Health & Sustainability Unit Leader with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Forestry Division.

Together, these members have served forestry communities, private and public landowners and our professional society for over 48 years. They have dedicated many hours promoting forestry and serving SAF on the local, regional and national levels. Please take a moment to celebrate and congratulate their award with an email!

**Jere Jeter**, State Forester for the Tennessee Division of Forestry, will be retiring at the end of June. We applaud Jere’s work for the state and wish him the best.

A Retirement Reception will honor Jere on June 27th, 1:00 – 3:00 pm with a program at 2:00pm. Light hors d’oeuvres provided.

Please RSVP with Kelly Lang at [Kelly.Lang@tn.gov](mailto:Kelly.Lang@tn.gov); 615.837-5421.

Ellington Ag Center
Porter Building
435 Hogan Rd
Nashville, TN

**Keith L. Belli** named dean of Clemson’s College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences

**Keith L. Belli**, the head of the University of Tennessee’s Department of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries, has been named dean of Clemson University’s **College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences (CAFLS)**. He will assume his new role Sept. 1, succeeding George R. Askew Jr., who will continue to serve as vice president of Clemson Public Service and Agriculture (PSA).

[Full article](#)
Freight companies advise that no hardwood or softwood logs can enter Chinese ports of Zhanpu, Yantian and Qingdao unless they are debarked or fumigated, noting no official communication has been received, but other districts are expected to follow suit.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Conducts Five-year Status Reviews of 35 Southeastern Species

As part of the process mandated by the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will conduct five-year status reviews of 35 endangered or threatened fish, wildlife, and plants. These species are found in the Southeastern United States and Puerto Rico.

The public is invited to provide information and comments concerning these species on or before July 6, 2018.

Wood you like a drink? Japan team invents 'wood alcohol'

Discerning drinkers may soon be able to branch out after Japanese researchers said Tuesday they have invented a way of producing an alcoholic drink made from wood. The researchers at Japan's Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute say the bark-based beverages have woody qualities similar to alcohol which is aged in wood barrels. They hope to have their "wood alcohol" on shelves within three years.
The Forest Stewards Guild and Berea College invite you to

**Restoring Woodland Health with Shortleaf Pine**

Learn how to improve forest health and ecological value, with shortleaf pine and prescribed fire

**Free presentations and tour:**

**Saturday June 30th, 2018**
Berea College Forest at Berea, KY
9:00am to 1:00pm ET
(Registration begins at 8:30am ET)

**Join us and bring a friend**
for an overview of the ecology and economics of shortleaf pine along with information on the available financial and technical assistance to help you steward your woodland, enhance wildlife habitat, and improve value. Learn about shortleaf management practices such as:

- Prescribed burning
- Planting shortleaf pine
- Managing for wildlife
- Forest thinning

**REGISTER ONLINE**
Details: forestguild.org/node/608
Inquiries: nick@forestguild.org
### 2018 K-T SAF Executive Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter/Committee</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Chris Will</td>
<td>Danville, KY</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chris@ckfm.net">chris@ckfm.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Chair-Elect/Membership</td>
<td>Tom Kain</td>
<td>Kingsport, TN</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Brian Hughett</td>
<td>Dickson, TN</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing Committee</td>
<td>Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>East KY</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Middle TN</td>
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</tr>
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<tr>
<td>West KY</td>
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### 2018 K-T SAF Standing and Special Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter/Committee</th>
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<tr>
<td>Standing Committee</td>
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<td>Standing Committee</td>
<td>Awards</td>
<td>VACANT</td>
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<tr>
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</tbody>
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Other:

- National Gen. Sessions Chair 2019: Rance Frye
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  - Email: rancefrye@gmail.com
- Special Committee Mentor -Secretary: Greg Bailey
  - Town: Oak Ridge, TN
  - Email: bailey@forestlandgroup.com
- Special Committee Mentor-Treasurer: Heather Slayton
  - Town: Nashville, TN
  - Email: heather.slayton@TN.gov
- Special Committee Student Outreach (M&M): Rance Frye
  - Town: Baxter, TN
  - Email: rancefrye@gmail.com
- National District 9 Council Rep.: Lee Crocker
  - Town: Waverly, OH
  - Email: Lacrocker78@gmail.com

Executive Committee members needed for a quorum

The state bought **Tygarts State Forest** in Carter County in 1957. It is 946 acres in size and adjoins Carter Caves State Resort Park. The forest is open for public recreation, including hiking, wildlife viewing and horseback riding. However, off-road vehicles, including ATVs and camping is prohibited. Public campsites are available at the state park. Food and lodging are available at the park and in the cities of Olive Hill and Grayson.

Master logger training is conducted in the forest several times a year. There is a timber harvesting best management practices trail leading into the forest.
Professional – Student Field Day
March 2018

Next NEWSLETTER
Deadline is
Friday
August 10, 2018

Please supply NEWSLETTER information in Microsoft WORD format to:
Greg Bailey
bailey@forestlandgroup.com

- Articles on forestry related topics
- News and events from your Chapters
- Accompanying photographs are greatly appreciated!

17 Months...
Till the 2019 SAF National Convention
Louisville, Kentucky